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INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR

HON. N.A. WILLMORE MINISTER
J. E. OBERHOLTZER DEPUTY MINISTER

PROVINCE OF
ALBERTA

STATISTICS OF AGRICULTURE FOR ALBERTA

Compiled by the Statistics Division, Extension Service, Alberta Department of Agriculture

Based on statistics published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Canada Department of Agriculture

MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

WHEAT: The four major export countries estimate supplies of wheat to be 1,907.5 million bushels at February 1st, 26 per cent greater than the 1,519.4 million available a year ago. Estimates by countries (in millions of bushels) including on-farm stocks with last year's figures in brackets were: Canada, 678.4 (558.0); United States, 923.4 (682.6); Argentina, 156.2 (153.7) and Australia, 149.5 (125.1).

World production of breadgrain-wheat and rye-in 1953-54 is now estimated at 254 million short tons compared with 263 tons last year which was the highest on record.

Total exports from Canada in 1953 are valued at $4,173 million. Wheat exports amounted to $568 million being exceeded only by newsprint paper. Canadian exports of wheat (as grain and flour) to the end of January 1953-54 crop year amounted to 138.3 million bushels compared to 190.3 for the same period last year.

Taking into account farm stocks at July 31, estimated production and farmers' marketings it is calculated that 109 million bushels of wheat remained on farms in Alberta at March 3, compared to 88 million bushels a year ago.

OTHER GRAINS:

The estimated acreage and production of flaxseed for 1952 and 1953 have been revised. The revised figures are: 1952, 167,000 acres producing 2,400,000 bushels; 1953, 164,000 acres producing 2,175,000 bushels.

LIVE STOCK:

In February, Alberta marketings of cattle, calves and sheep and lambs were greater than for the same month in 1953. The number of cattle returned for further feeding was up nearly 30 per cent. Prices were a little easier for cattle and higher for lambs. Hog marketings were below those for February 1953, but prices were about $1.00 above January quotations. The estimated value of wool production in 1953 is 1,985,000 pounds compared to 1,908,000 in 1952. There was no change in prices received for wool by farmers- 38 cents a pound in both years.

POULTRY:

The number of chicks hatched in registered hatcheries in Alberta, January 1st to February 28th, 1954, is reported to be 643,036 compared to 365,092 in 1953, an increase of 76.1 per cent. A comparison of poult numbers hatched is not significant because of few numbers. Egg supply is the limiting factor at present; hatchability is low.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Final estimates show Alberta's 1953 honey production at 3,856,000 pounds compared to 4,900,000 in 1952. Estimates for Canada are 31,230,000 pounds (1952) and 26,384,000 pounds (1953). The average price to Alberta producers in 1953 was 14 cents a pound compared to 12 cents in 1952.

The production of dairy factory products continued above the 1953 level. Production for February expressed as a per cent of 1953 figures were: creamery butter, 112%; cheddar cheese, 167%; and ice cream, 108%.

GRAIN MARKETINGS - ALBERTA

FARMERS' MARKETINGS INCLUDING PRIVATE ELEVATOR AND PLATFORM LOADINGS AND ESTIMATED INCOME RECEIVED.

CROP YEARS - 1 August, 1952 - 31 July, 1953
1 August, 1953 - 31 July, 1954

		WHEAT		OATS		BARLEY		RYE		FLAX	
Marketings:		1952-53	1953-54	1952-53	1953-54	1952-53	1953-54	1952-53	1953-54	1952-53	1953-54
- thousands of bushels -											
Month of February		11,474	5,804	2,384	4,411	4,135	1,898	156	135	27	76
Season August - February		89,622	75,172	21,857	20,040	39,982	22,886	3,063	1,956	1,538	1,581
Estimated Farm Returns:											
- dollars per bushels -											
Initial Payment		1.10	1.14	0.49	0.49	0.76	0.73				
Interim Payments											
February 18, 1953		0.20	-	-	-	-	-				
Sept. 11 - Nov. 19, 1953		0.12	-	0.10	-	0.15	-				
February 25, 1954		0.11	-	-	-	0.12	-				
Total per bushels to date	$	1.53★	1.14	0.59★	0.49	1.03★	0.73	1.33★	0.81	3.10★	2.33
- thousands of dollars -											
Total farm returns to date	$	137,122	85,696	12,896	9,820	41,182	16,707	4,074	1,584	4,768	3,684

★ Final estimate of prices received.

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LIVE STOCK PRICES - ALBERTA

February 1954, and two months ending February 1954, as compared with corresponding periods in 1953.

	GOOD STEERS		GOOD VEAL		GOOD LAMBS		B1 HOGS (dressed)	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	- Dollars per hundred pounds -							
Month of February								
Calgary	20.19	16.61	24.65	23.05	22.40	20.30	23.87	33.15
Edmonton	20.35	15.71	27.84	22.81	21.98	21.61	23.68	33.73
Lethbridge	18.58	16.85	22.00	19.16	22.45	20.27	23.64	32.94
January - February								
Calgary	20.65	16.99	24.37	22.00	22.45	19.92	23.05	32.95
Edmonton	20,70	16.10	28.52	22.49	21.76	21.13	23.05	33.53
Lethbridge	19.85	16.97	21.89	17.66	22.40	20.20	22.85	32.75

PRICE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN LIVE STOCK AND GRAIN : BASIS EDMONTON PRICES

Hog-Barley Ratio

1933-53	1952	1953	Feb. 1953	Feb. 1954
21.5	15.8	22.2	17.1	32.5

Number of bushels of No. 1 feed barley that are equal in value to 100 lbs. of grade B_1 live hog at Edmonton prices plus federal premium on hogs.

Live Stock Price Relationships

	1933-53	1952	1953	Feb. 1953	Feb. 1954
Good Steers - B_1 Hogs	85.1	123.7	84.7	111.4	60.5
Good Lambs - B_1 Hogs	90.2	118.5	92.8	120.4	83.2
Good Steers - Good Lambs	91.2	104.4	91.2	92.6	72.7

Prices of 100 lbs. good steers (or lambs) expressed as a percentage of the price of 100 lb. B_1 live hogs, (federal premium included) or good lambs.

February 1954, and two months ending February 1954, as compared with corresponding periods in 1953.

	CATTLE		CALVES		SHEEP AND LAMBS		HOGS	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
		----	number of head	----				
Receipts at Public Stockyards and Packing Plants								
Month of February	29,975	35,699	4,465	6,051	9,184	14,683	128,454	113,313
January - February	62,961	80,375	9,993	12,701	18,032	27,486	264,400	228,174
Shipments to Country Points from Yards and Plants								
Month of February	2,848	3,644	844	631	206	386	-	-
January - February	6,047	6,285	2,069	1,316	1,030	651	-	-
Net Marketings at Public Stockyards and Packing Plants								
Month of February	27,127	32,055	3,621	5,420	8,978	14,297	128,454	113,313
January - February	56,914	74,090	7,924	11,385	17,002	26,835	264,400	228,174
Slaughterings in Uninspected Establishments								
Month of February	-	2,084	-	727	-	162	-	1,982
January - February	-	4,083	-	1,436	-	329	-	3,678
Total Net Live Stock Marketings								
Month of February	29,211	34,139	4,348	6,147	9,140	14,459	130,436	115,295
January - February	60,997	78,173	9,360	12,821	17,331	27,164	268,078	231,852
Estimated Value of Live Stock Marketed			---- dollars ----					
Month of February	$ 5,371,834	4,574,626	286,968	325,791	182,800	289,180	4,956,568	6,341,225
January - February	$10,571,392	10,651,318	647,832	726,231	346,620	517,870	10,049,322	12,518,746

Note: Uninspected slaughterings for 1953 are not available. In calculating total net marketings and values it was assumed that slaughterings in uninspected plants in 1953 equalled slaughterings reported for 1954.

FARM SALES AND CASH INCOME FROM DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS IN ALBERTA

1953 - 1954

	FARM SALES				FARM CASH INCOME			
	JANUARY		JANUARY		JANUARY		JANUARY	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	- Thousands of pounds -				- Thousands of Dollars -			
Butterfat for Creamery Butter	1,002	1,132			612	683		
Dairy Butter	7	3.5	No		4	2	No	
Milk for Cheese Making	1,133	1,848	Cumulative		29	46	Cumulative	
Milk for Concentration Ice Cream and Fluid Cream ✯	9,347	8,405	Figures		272	253	Figures	
Milk for Fluid Sales	16,232	16,264			737	737		
TOTAL VALUE					1,654	1,721		

✯ Ice Cream and Fluid Cream Converted to Milk Basis.

	FEBRUARY		JANUARY-FEBRUARY		FEBRUARY		JANUARY-FEBRUARY	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	- thousand dozen -				- dollars -			
Eggs Received at Commercial Grading Stations	1,195	1,153	2,231	2,621	349,961	349,851	751,012	782,265
	- pounds -							
Poultry Marketings through Registered Stations	156,470	121,234	371,000	382,000	50,470	37,583	119,042	114,052

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES ALLIED TO AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY AND TWO MONTH PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1953

			1953 (Jan.-Feb.)	1954 (Jan.-Feb.)	2 Months Inc. or (-) Dec. %	1953 (Feb.)	1954 (Feb.)	1 Month Inc. or (-) Dec. %
FLOUR MILLS (8 Firms)	- Gross Sales	$	4,618,030	4,735,835	2.55	2,570,194	2,435,469	-5.24
	- Production	Barrels	533,093	480,799	-9.81	269,773	251,561	-6.75
		Value $	5,028,855	4,714,270	-6.26	2,562,092	2,382,866	-7.00
CREAMERY BUTTER (1)	- Production	Lbs.	2,517,440	2,831,373	12.47	1,295,715	1,447,373	11.70
		Value $	1,554,519	1,712,981	10.19	800,104	875,661	9.44
FACTORY CHEESE (1)	- Production	Lbs.	215,901	356,963	65.34	112,639	188,964	67.76
		Value $	74,485	119,583	60.55	38,860	63,303	62.90
DAIRY FACTORIES	- Gross Sales	$	4,091,625	4,214,567	3.00	1,931,807	2,035,255	5.35
PACKING PLANTS	- Gross Sales	$	18,867,644	21,561,965	14.28	8,787,116	10,224,865	16.36
	Production - Meat	Lbs.	51,536,351	51,339,160	- .38	27,007,006	26,732,549	-1.02
		Value $	14,563,254	15,814,524	8.59	7,715,910	8,203,886	6.32

(1) Source: Dairy Branch, Alberta Department of Agriculture.

MINERALS AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES - ALBERTA

FEBRUARY AND TWO MONTH PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1953.

			1 9 5 3 (Jan. - Feb.)	1 9 5 4 (Jan.-Feb.)	2 Months Inc. or (-) Dec. %	1 9 5 3 (Feb.)	1 9 5 4 (Feb.)	1 Month Inc. or (-) Dec. %
Coal (1)	Production	Tons	1,146,779	1,170,438	2.06	449,679	519,652	15.56
		Value $	6,018,156	6,275,647	4.28	2,340,447	2,816,339	20.33
Salt	Production	Tons	3,745	4,739	26.54	1,532	2,256	47.26
Petroleum Products Refined -	Gross Sales	$	12,021,685	13,756,732	14.43	4,861,587	6,069,283	24.84
Propane	Production	Gallons	2,412,664	2,613,843	8.34	1,159,205	1,263,101	8.96
	Sales	Gallons	2,503,898	3,309,628	32.18	1,173,579	1,576,330	34.32
Butane	Production	Gallons	951,351	1,102,536	15.89	462,795	525,051	13.45
	Sales	Gallons	387,597	1,099,652	183.71	152,153	519,428	241.39
Sulphur	Production	Tons	2,684	4,030	50.15	1,194	1,913	60.22
	Sales	Tons	1,375	2,694	95.93	449	1,086	141.87
Clay Products	Gross Sales	$	349,193	369,592	5.84	186,862	184,359	- 1.34
Cement & Cement Products	Gross Sales	$	1,774,243	1,238,067	-30.22	987,469	818,538	- 17.11
Cement	Production	Barrels	510,208	364,569	-28.55	267,482	193,872	- 27.52
		Value $	1,299,983	927,679	-28.64	680,076	491,476	- 27.73
Lime	Gross Sales	$	65,359	81,116	24.11	29,251	42,606	45.66
	Production	Tons	2,600	2,846	9.46	1,139	1,492	30.99
		Value $	40,473	47,175	16.56	18,341	23,670	29.06

(1) Source: Mines Division, Department of Mines and Minerals, Alberta.

MINERALS AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES - ALBERTA

PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1953.

				1952 (12 Mos.)	1953 (12 Mos.)	1953 (1 Mo.)	1954 (1 Mo.)	PERCENTAGE (1 Mo.)	
								INC.%	DEC.%
Petroleum	(1)	Production	Barrels	58,908,722	76,818,432	5,040,355	7,584,174	50.47	
		Value of Sales	$	139,657,915	193,118,494	11,611,217	19,859,678	71.04	
Natural Gas	(1)	Production	M. C. F.	95,822,255	113,960,664	12,055,899	15,993,595	32.66	
Petroleum-Crude & Refined	(2)	Imports	Gallons	58,889,974	69,847,927	5,877,898	5,166,580		12.10
		Exports	Gallons	1,573,143,989	1,915,768,101	87,652,319	224,680,615	156.33	
Petroleum Products Refined	(2)	Production	Gallons	682,094,238	704,721,509	58,641,402	64,877,990	10.64	
		Imports	Gallons	10,509,239	17,180,225	1,293,066	1,110,992		14.08
		Exports	Gallons	184,651,859	158,241,500	13,111,098	14,001,770	6.79	
Natural Gasoline	(1)	Production	Barrels	579,873	602,368	58,154	64,624	11.13	
		Value of Sales	$	1,662,514	1,766,307	163,345	186,224	14.01	

(1) Source: Alberta Oil and Gas Industry, January, Petroleum and Natural Gas Conservation Board.

(2) Source: Fuel Oil Tax Branch, Department of Provincial Secretary, Alberta.

GENERAL STATISTICS - ALBERTA

FEBRUARY AND TWO MONTH PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1953.

			1 9 5 3 (Jan. - Feb.)	1 9 5 4 (Jan. - Feb.)	2 Months Inc. or (-) Dec. %	1 9 5 3 (Feb.)	1 9 5 4 (Feb.)	1 Month Inc. or (-) Dec. %
Forestry (Crown Lands)	- Production	Lumber-ft.b.m.	190,912,000	170,193,000	-10.85	101,344,000	95,109,000	- 6.15
		Value $	7,636,500	6,807,700	-10.85	4,053,800	3,804,400	- 6.15
Total Value of Lumber and Other Forestry Products		$	8,237,000	7,408,000	-10.07	4,354,000	4,104,000	- 5.74
Fur (Wild Life)	- Trapped	No. of Pelts	599,419	294,824	-50.82	208,814	133,630	-36.01
		Value $	459,714	204,109	-55.60	169,008	90,687	-46.34
Wholesale Trade	- Gross Sales	$	72,784,177	71,877,044	- 1.25	36,403,937	37,360,383	2.63
Machinery, Agricultural	- Gross Sales	$	8,449,928	4,900,098	-42.01	4,878,443	3,188,083	-34.65
Machinery, Other	- Gross Sales	$	2,757,303	2,058,916	-25.33	1,295,107	884,656	-31.69
Bank Clearings		$	624,778,371	601,883,211	- 3.66	301,057,280	275,364,824	- 8.53

PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1953.

			1 9 5 2 (12 Mos.)	1 9 5 3 (12 Mos.)	1 9 5 3 (1 Mo.)	1 9 5 4 (1 Mo.)	PERCENTAGE (1 Mo.) INC.%	DEC.%
Fisheries	- Production (1)	Lbs.	9,656,981	10,838,705				
	Value	$	942,888	1,085,898				
Retail Trade	- Gross Sales (2)	$	944,123,000	972,688,000	66,603,000	59,841,000		10.15
New Motor Vehicles	- Gross Sales (3)	No.	41,209	43,304	3,184	1,940		39.07
	Value	$	103,192,354	108,246,857	8,001,000	4,846,000		39.43
Bank Debits (4)		$	7,857,888,767	9,041,687,000	673,542,533	769,790,575	14.29	
Customs' Duty Receipts		$	14,835,809	17,107,281	1,211,705	853,191		29.59
Electric Power	- Consumption (5)	K.W. Hrs.	1,163,293,000	1,321,882,000	120,493,000	144,801,000	20.17	

(1) Source: Fish and Game Branch; Department of Lands and Forests, Alberta.
(2) Source: Retail Trade Vol. XXVI, No. 1, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.
(3) Source: New Motor Vehicle Sales and Motor Vehicles Financing, Vol. XXVI, No. 1, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.
(4) Source: Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, Vol. 31, No. 1, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.
(5) Source: Central Electric Stations, Vol. 22, No. 1, 1954, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

CONSTRUCTION - ALBERTA

FEBRUARY AND TWO MONTH PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1953.

BUILDING PERMITS:		1953 (Jan-Feb.)	1954 (Jan-Feb.)	2 Months Inc.or (-) Dec. %	1953 (Feb.)	1954 (Feb.)	1 Month Inc. or (-) Dec. %
CALGARY	Number	470	314	-33.19	268	158	-41.04
	Value $.	3,060,683	3,087,948	.89	1,691,748	1,023,239	-39.52
EDMONTON	Number	360	368	2.22	212	221	4.25
	Value $.	1,694,610	2,231,290	31.67	1,088,092	1,864,740	71.38
LETHBRIDGE	Number	46	72	56.52	30	45	50.00
	Value $.	291,840	308,434	5.69	225,440	154,140	-31.63
MEDICINE HAT	Number	13	12	- 7.69	9	6	-33.33
	Value $.	84,900	21,680	-74.46	38,950	6,200	-84.08
RED DEER	Number	17	10	-41.18	9	8	-11.11
	Value $.	28,000	33,650	20.18	17,200	32,300	87.79
DRUMHELLER	Number	3	7	133.33	3	4	33.33
	Value $.	11,450	244,340	2033.97	11,450	243,250	2024.45
WETASKIWIN	Number	4	2	50.00	3	2	-33.33
	Value $.	4,600	33,500	628.26	3,800	33,500	781.58
TOTAL - (7 CITIES)	NUMBER	913	785	-14.02	534	444	-16.85
	VALUE $.	5,176,083	5,960,842	15.16	3,076,680	3,357,369	9.12

CONTRACTS AWARDED - ALBERTA: (1)		1952 (12 Mos.)	1953 (12 Mos.)	1953 (1 Mo.)	1954 (1 Mo.)	PERCENTAGE (1 MO.) INC.%	DEC.%
RESIDENTIAL	Number	5,092	6,825	148	126		14.86
	Value $.	55,240,100	80,982,600	1,531,100	2,206,500	44.11	
BUSINESS	Number	760	875	36	22		38.89
	Value $.	56,964,900	60,113,700	4,964,000	3,198,100		35.57
INDUSTRIAL	Number	111	123	3	13	333.33	
	Value $	31,577,300	9,836,600	623,000	791,000	26.97	
ENGINEERING	Number	206	331	12	10		16.67
	Value $.	87,409,000	64,078,000	1,696,200	1,929,900	13.78	
TOTAL -------------	NUMBER	6,169	8,154	199	171		14.07
	VALUE $	231,191,300	215,010,900	8,814,300	8,125,500		7.81

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(1) Source: Building Reporter, February, 1954, Published by Maclean Building Reports Limited.

VISITORS TO NATIONAL PARKS & RESERVES - ALBERTA

MARCH AND THREE MONTH PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1953.

	1953 (Jan. - March)	1954 (Jan.- March)	3 Months Inc. or (-) Dec. %	1953 (March)	1954 (March)	1 Month Inc. or (-) Dec. %
Banff	58,913	49,908	-15.29	20,454	16,899	-17.38
Elk Island	1,850	2,100	13.51	1,500	1,500	-
Jasper	1,443	941	-34.79	516	453	-12.21
TOTAL	62,206	52,949	-14.88	22,470	18,852	-16.10

(1) AUTOMOBILES ENTERING CUSTOMS' STATIONS
FOR TOURING PURPOSES - ALBERTA

FEBRUARY AND TWO MONTH PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1953.

	1953 (Jan.-Feb.)	1954 (Jan.-Feb.)	2 Months Inc. or (-) Dec. %	1953 (Feb.)	1954 (Feb.)	1 Month Inc. or (-) Dec. %
Aden	40	30	-25.00	22	18	-18.18
Carway	192	119	-38.02	84	85	1.19
Coutts	3,116	3,398	9.05	1,374	1,956	42.36
Del Bonita	224	129	-42.41	84	86	2.38
Wild Horse	45	37	-17.78	17	22	29.41
TOTAL	3,617	3,713	2.65	1,581	2,167	37.07

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(1) Source: Travel between Canada and the United States - Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

DETAILS OF ALBERTA REFINERIES' PRODUCTION

JANUARY - 1 9 5 4

FIRMS DESIGNATED AS:	GASOLINE GALS	DIESEL FUEL GALS	KEROSENE GALS.	OTHER FUEL GALS.	MISC. FUEL GALS.	TOTAL GALS.
A-	2,625,770	901,670		1,261,050	629,790	5,418,280
AA-	4,646,285	2,184,700	44,590	5,110		6,880,685
B-	331,030					331,030
BB-	21,605	78,368	85,142	419,988	35,000	640,103
C-	1,040,702	306,142	23,403	229,234		1,599,481
E-						
G-	244,113	396,440		6,016,519		6,657,072
H-	4,583,052	378,256	308,970	1,144,348		6,414,626
J-	14,240,009	7,836,439	358,705	5,612,600		28,047,753
K-				2,576		2,576
L-	1,393,490					1,393,490
M-	2,240	5,285	2,240	59,185		68,950
N-	5,023,865	552,895	630 *	1,519,735	209,650	7,305,515
O-	865			117,564		118,429
TOTAL	34,153,026	12,640,195	822,420	16,387,909	874,440	64,877,990

* Adjustment - Deduct

FEBRUARY AND TWO MONTH PERIOD ENIDNG FEBRUARY 28, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1953.

	1 9 5 3 (Jan.-Feb.) $	1 9 5 4 (Jan.- Feb.) $	2 Months Inc. or (-) Dec. %	1 9 5 3 (Feb.) $	1 9 5 4 (Feb.) $	1 Month Inc. or (-) or %
B Y T Y P E S						
Automotive Accessories, Equipment and Supplies	14,808,395	15,765,673	6.46	7,608,130	7,760,197	2.00
Boots and Shoes	338,976	347,092	2.39	171,794	198,537	15.57
Drugs	1,271,160	1,344,338	5.76	633,721	687,159	8.43
Dry Goods	1,661,048	1,570,162	- 5.47	807,015	781,572	- 3.15
Electrical Appliances & Radios	5,151,643	4,549,084	-11.70	2,214,530	2,085,950	- 5.81
Florists	36,193	31,617	-12.64	19,877	18,916	- 4.83
Furniture	782,046	651,769	-16.66	481,986	439,347	- 8.85
Groceries (including Fruits & Vegetables)	19,552,899	20,878,792	6.78	9,290,899	10,709,999	15.27
Hardware	7,734,556	6,674,567	-13.70	4,199,733	3,650,358	-13.08
Lumber and Building Supplies	5,133,561	4,424,996	-13.80	2,689,417	2,478,077	- 7.86
Paints and Varnishes	900,209	860,306	- 4.43	500,896	496,593	- .86
Paper	1,318,523	1,179,931	-10.51	645,704	614,838	- 4.78
Tobacco	2,670,468	2,697,777	1.02	1,195,425	1,365,842	14.26
Oilfield Supplies	1,775,069	1,317,944	-25.75	1,065,532	738,331	-30.71
Carbonated Beverages	2,420,735	2,221,409	- 8.23	1,271,538	1,334,615	4.96
Miscellaneous	7,228,696	7,361,587	1.84	3,607,740	4,000,052	10.87
T O T A L	72,784,177	71,877,044	- 1.25	36,403,937	37,360,383	2.63
B Y L O C A T I O N S						
Calgary	27,112,934	26,492,272	- 2.29	14,453,137	13,925,545	- 3.65
Edmonton	14,079,935	13,102,904	- 6.94	6,927,991	6,734,833	- 2.79
Lethbridge	2,133,899	2,088,937	- 2.11	1,031,522	1,133,957	9.93
Medicine Hat	176,846	170,187	- 3.77	81,490	91,614	12.42
Smaller Centres	910,349	891,602	- 2.06	477,703	488,080	2.17
Major Cities - not distributable by location	28,370,214	29,131,147	2.68	13,432,094	14,986,354	11.57
T O T A L	72,784,177	71,877,044	- 1.25	36,403,937	37,360,383	2.63

RETAIL TRADE - ALBERTA

PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1953

	1952 (12 Mos.)	1953 (12 Mos.)	1953 (1 Mo.)	1954 (1 Mo.)	PERCENTAGE (1 MO.)	
					INC.%	DEC.%
	$	$	$	$	%	%
TOTAL - RETAIL TRADE	944,123,000	972,688,000	66,603,000[a]	59,841,000[a]		10.15
Grocery and Combination Stores	113,824,000	118,976,000	9,624,000	9,545,000		.82
Meat Stores	14,612,000	14,648,000	1,110,000	1,120,000	.90	
Country General Stores	61,949,000	61,905,000	4,375,000	4,288,000		1.99
Department Stores	96,319,000	102,262,000	7,083,000	6,842,000		3.40
Variety Store	11,433,000	12,399,000	671,000	610,000		9.09
Motor Vehicle Dealers	219,791,000	210,989,000	12,626,000	9,962,000		21.10
Garage and Filling Stations	50,186,000	55,946,000	4,057,000	4,272,000	5.30	
Men's Clothing Stores	16,037,000	16,048,000	1,198,000	1,117,000		6.76
Family Clothing Stores	11,809,000	12,414,000	865,000	817,000		5.55
Women's Clothing Stores	15,529,000	18,181,000	1,098,000	886,000		19.31
Shoe Stores	5,319,000	5,564,000	373,000	352,000		5.63
Hardware Stores	27,889,000	29,285,000	1,844,000	1,752,000		4.99
Lumber & Building Material Dealers	51,838,000	57,057,000	3,105,000	2,534,000		18.39
Furniture Stores	11,042,000	10,929,000	910,000	683,000		24.95
Appliances and Radio Stores	17,051,000	18,648,000	(b)	(b)		
Restaurants	40,760,000	39,218,000	2,759,000	2,308,000		16.35
Coal and Wood Dealers	702,000	482,000	(b)	(b)		
Drug Stores	19,544,000	20,400,000	1,683,000	1,576,000		6.36
Jewellery Stores	7,679,000	7,829,000	521,000	(b)		
Tobacco Stores	2,088,000	2,301,000	(b)	(b)		
All Other Trades	148,722,000	157,207,000	10,958,000	9,230,000		15.77

(a) Any slight differences between totals and their components are due to the rounding of the figures and to figures being withheld to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(b) Not available.

(Source: Retail Trade Vol XXVI, No. 1, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Alberta Summary for Period Ending 1st February, 1954.)

(Source: Labour Gazette, Volume 54, No. 2, February, 1954.)

An unusually severe spell of winter weather, a slow down of grain shipments to the east and the usual decline in retail sales were the main factors influencing employment conditions in the prairie region during January. It is estimated that by January 23 there were 90 thousand fewer persons at work than at the same time last year.

In January extremely low temperatures and heavy snows curtailed outdoor work in the prairie region. The effect was most marked in the construction and allied industries. At the end of the month N. E. S. offices reported more than 30,000 job applications from workers in construction occupations; this represented more than half the total applications from male workers.

Contributing to the lower level of activity were the relatively large stocks of wheat at eastern and western storage points, which caused a marked decline in grain traffic and resulted in the lay-off of railway workers in a number of areas. Retail trade at some rural points was also reported to be affected by smaller grain deliveries from farms, although retail sales in the region as a whole were fairly well maintained.

Among the metropolitan and major industrial areas the effect of the decline of activity, particularly in construction, was greatest in Winnipeg, Edmonton and Calgary.

In the major agricultural and minor areas labour requirements in the agricultural section of the region were generally lower than last winter, resulting in a development of moderate surpluses in most areas and substantial surpluses in Lethbridge, Dauphin and Portage la Prairie. In addition to the sharp drop of construction work many areas reported lay-offs of railway workers and an unusually slack labour demand in retail trade and agriculture. Coal mining areas reported greater activity, although some mines were still working only part time.

In the classification of labour market areas Lethbridge is shown as having a heavy surplus. Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer and Medicine Hat reported moderate surpluses and only Drumheller, of Alberta centres, reports an approximate balance between demand and supply of labour.

Employment and Payrolls

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics collects monthly data from firms, usually having 15 or more employees. Data are requested for all classes of employees, irrespective of their functions in the business; statistics for the owners are not included. Employees engaged in agriculture, government, and educational services are excluded. Wages represent gross earnings before deductions for unemployment insurance, taxes, pension funds, etc., are made. They also include the cost-of-living bonus, made at frequent intervals. They exclude value of board and lodging, employers' contributions to unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation and pension and welfare funds as well as bonuses paid at irregular or infrequent intervals such as annual bonuses and retirement gratuities. The following tables compare the employment and wage situations at the 1st of January, 1954, with that existing one year earlier in the main non-agricultural industries of the province of Alberta. Figures for the cities of Calgary and Edmonton are shown as well.

EMPLOYEES, PAYROLLS AND AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES AND SALARIES, ALBERTA, BY INDUSTRIES

At JANUARY 1, 1954, As Compared with Corresponding Date in 1953

	Index Numbers (1949 = 100) Employment		Average Weekly Wages and Salaries		Employees Reported
	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Jan.1 1954
Mining	122.5	117.5	69.28	73.82	18,157
Coal	82.6	70.7	55.51	58.11	5,707
Oil and Natural Gas Wells	185.9	182.7	77.20	80.98	11.176
Manufacturing	129.4	124.4	54.75	57.66	25,019
Food and Beverages	119.6	112.3	56.73	57.32	8,258
Meat Products	128.3	116.0	63.61	64.37	3,685
Wood Products	144.1	113.2	42.03	45.36	2,977
Printing, Publishing and Allied Industries	99.9	102.3	54.46	57.46	1,159
Iron and Steel Products	151.1	138.5	55.97	63.15	2,520
Transportation Equipment	161.6	155.9	55.45	58.27	4,613
Non-Metallic Mineral Products (j)	99.6	114.0	52.67	52.38	1,766
Products of Petroleum and Coal	121.4	126.4	81.34	79.66	1,211
Construction	149.9	149.7	51.73	56.46	16.227
Buildings and Structures (k)	192.3	163.3	51.87	57.37	9,794
Highways, Bridges and Streets	103.0	132.9	51.67	55.06	6,433
Transportation, Storage, Communication	114.2	110.8	60.19	62.73	23,019
Steam Railways	106.6	99.3	63.66	66.41	13,277
Electric and Motor Transportation (p)	133.9	133.6	57.40	65.18	3,413
Storage	115.4	117.5	50.29	51.35	2,714
Trade	131.9	131.6	48.43	50.48	25,928
Wholesale	127.1	126.1	52.03	55.15	8,789
Retail	134.7	134.7	46.55	48.08	17,139
Service	100.1	116.6	37.31	38.54	6,501
Hotels and Restaurants	92.1	108.4	37.44	38.64	4,355
Industrial Composite	125.7	124.7	55.10	57.83	124,496

(j) Abrasive, asbestos, hydraulic cement, clay, glass, lime and gypsum, stone, concrete and miscellaneous non-metallic products.
(k) Buildings and structures, other construction, and special trade contractors.
(p) Interurban bus and coach and urban and suburban transportation systems; taxi-cab and truck transportation; service incidental to transportation, and other transportation.

Source: Employment and Payrolls, January, 1954
Prepared in the
Employment Section of the Labour and Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

Employment, Payrolls and Average Weekly Wages and Salaries, CALGARY and EDMONTON, by Industries at JANUARY, 1954, as Compared with Corresponding Date in 1953.

	Index Numbers (1949 = 100) Employment		Average Weekly Wages and Salaries		Employees Reported
	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1954
CALGARY					
Manufacturing	122.3	119.7	58.98	61.22	9,011
Foods and Beverages	113.3	111.4	60.22	62.42	2,796
Transportation Equipment	152.2	148.8	58.07	59.93	2,722
Construction	156.9	144.4	49.73	53.59	2,848
Wholesale Trade	118.7	121.5	52.30	55.73	3,797
Retail Trade	134.8	135.0	46.62	48.29	6,738
Industrial Composite	126.0	129.0	52.76	55.17	31,331
EDMONTON					
Manufacturing	144.9	136.5	55.03	59.00	10,110
Foods and Beverages	127.7	116.2	59.23	59.54	3,522
Meat Products	133.4	117.6	62.38	62.11	2,408
Construction	163.9	155.7	53.41	57.97	6,214
Wholesale Trade	139.8	139.8	50.91	53.93	3,816
Retail Trade	134.6	135.4	48.30	49.50	7,472
Industrial Composite	142.2	140.3	51.67	54.40	35,440

SOURCE: Employment and Payrolls, January, 1954.

Prepared in the

Employment Section of the Labour and Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF HOURLY-RATED WAGE-EARNERS IN SPECIFIED INDUSTRIES - ALBERTA

AT JANUARY 1, 1954, AS COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING DATE IN 1953

	Average Hours		Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Wages		Wage Earners Reported
	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1954
Coal Mining	29.1	30.8	182.1	182.5	52.99	56.21	4,986
Oil and Natural Gas Production	44.2	44.0	167.8	173.5	74.17	76.34	4,184
Manufacturing	38.4	38.4	137.7	144.1	52.88	55.33	17,801
Foods and Beverages	39.6	38.0	137.3	142.2	54.37	54.04	5,826
Meat Products	39.9	38.9	153.8	156.1	61.37	60.72	2,644
Transportation Equipment	37.1	38.0	148.2	151.3	54.98	57.49	3,626
Buildings and Structures (h)	30.0	33.1	159.7	165.7	47.91	54.85	7,678
Electric and Motor Transportation (i)	40.6	40.4	136.4	148.4	55.38	59.95	2,080
Service (j)	41.5	39.9	87.4	93.3	36.27	37.23	3,559

Source: Man Hours and Hourly Earnings, January 1, 1954.

Prepared in the

Employment Section of the Labour and Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics

(h) Buildings and Structures; other construction; special trade contractors.
(i) Interurban bus and coach and urban and suburban transportation systems; taxi -cab and truck transportation; service incidental to transportation; other transportation.
(j) Hotels and restaurants; launderies; dyeing; cleaning and pressing business and recreational services.

(1) ADVANCE INDEX NUMBERS OF EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS, FEBRUARY, 1954, WITH INDEXES FOR A YEAR EARLIER (1949 = 100)

(2) AND AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES AND SALARIES

	(1) EMPLOYMENT		(1) PAYROLLS		(2) AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES AND SALARIES	
	Feb. 1 1954	Feb. 1 1953	Feb. 1 1954	Feb. 1 1953	Feb. 1 1954	Feb. 1 1953
Newfoundland	113.8	125.3	165.5	173.7	54.61	52.77
Prince Edward Island	96.4	110.8	128.2	145.2	44.81	44.37
Nova Scotia	95.6	101.0	126.2	131.5	49.36	48.74
New Brunswick	97.8	100.6	129.5	129.4	50.12	49.08
Quebec	105.8	110.6	144.7	146.2	56.17	54.41
Ontario	110.6	113.1	151.7	149.6	60.72	58.91
Manitoba	100.9	104.0	132.7	130.8	56.06	53.74
Saskatchewan	109.2	106.2	144.8	134.7	54.92	52.71
Alberta	118.4	121.6	159.5	156.2	59.86	57.50
British Columbia	97.7	101.0	134.1	136.2	62.64	61.65
Canada - Composite Index	107.0	110.3	146.0	145.6	-	-
Canada - Manufacturing	108.1	111.9	149.4	149.7	60.47	58.82
Canada - Composite Figure	-	-	-	-	58.42	56.72

Source: Prepared in the Employment Section of the Labour and Prices Division.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.